

RESPONSE

Claims 1-11 are pending in the application. Claims 1-11 have been rejected. Applicant has amended claims 1-8, 10, and 11. Reconsideration and re-examination of pending claims is respectfully requested.

Specification

Applicant has corrected the specification as pointed out by the Examiner and adds that the correction does not constitute new matter.

Claim Rejections based on 35 USC 102

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Wilhelm et. al. (USPN 4,567,397). Applicant respectfully disagrees that independent claim 1, as amended, anticipates Wilhelm et. al. (Wilhelm) and states:

The sleeve in Wilhelm is used for the assembly of the bulb. Col. 2, lines 8-9 states that the sleeve is arranged so that it can be aligned in three dimensions to secure. By contrast, the heat sink (sleeve) in the present invention (claim 1) lowers the temperature of the bulb attachment so that the temperature of an operational bulb is within UL standards. Further, the heat sink in the present invention is circumferentially adjacent to the lower portion of the bulb (see Figures 1-3), while the sleeve in Wilhelm is below the bulb. Since claims 2-4 depend on a now allowable base claim, their rejection is moot.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 2, 5, 6, and 8 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hellwig et. al. (USPN 5,053,935). Applicant respectfully disagrees

that independent claims 1 and 6, as amended, anticipate Hellwig et. al. (Hellwig) and states:

The centering member in Hellwig is used for the assembly of the lamp unit. The Abstract states that the centering member has a wall with an opening in which the seal of the bulb is accommodated. By contrast, the heat sink (sleeve) in the present invention (claims 1 and 6) lowers the temperature of the bulb attachment so that the temperature of an operational bulb is within UL standards. Further, the heat sink in the present invention is circumferentially adjacent to the lower portion of the bulb (see Figures 1-3), while the sleeve in Hellwig is below the bulb. Since claims 2, 5, and 8 depend on a now allowable base claim, their rejection is moot.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 5-8, and 11 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Blaisdell (USPN 4,403,276). Applicant respectfully disagrees that independent claims 1 and 6, as amended, anticipate Blaisdell and states:

The retention means (sleeve) in Blaisdell is used for the assembly of the lamp. Col. 4, lines 4-8 states that the function of the retention means is to retain the lamp in alignment within the reflector such that the envelope is oriented within the concave portion of the reflector and the lamp's sealed end is located substantially within the neck of the reflector. By contrast, the heat sink (sleeve) in the present invention (claims 1 and 6) lowers the temperature of the bulb attachment so that the temperature of an operational bulb is within UL standards. Further, the heat sink in the present invention is circumferentially adjacent to the lower portion of the bulb (see Figures 1-3), while the sleeve in Blaisdell is below the bulb. Since claims 5, 7, 8, and 11 depend on a now allowable base claim, their rejection is moot.

Claim Rejections based on 35 USC 103

Examiner has rejected claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Wilhelm. Applicant states that since claim 5 is dependent on a now allowable base claim 1, its rejection is moot.

Examiner has rejected claims 9 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Blaisdell in view of Wilhelm. Applicant states that since claims 9 and 10 are dependent on a now allowable base claim 6, their rejection is moot.

CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that pending claims 1-11 are patentably distinct from the prior art of record and in condition for allowance. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that pending claims 1-11 be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,

COUDERT BROTHERS LLP

Date: November 11, 2003

By: 

J. D. Harriman II
Reg. No. 31,967